4-13-1990

INSECT, PLANT DISEASE, & WEED SCIENCE NEWS [No. 90-4] [April 13, 1990]

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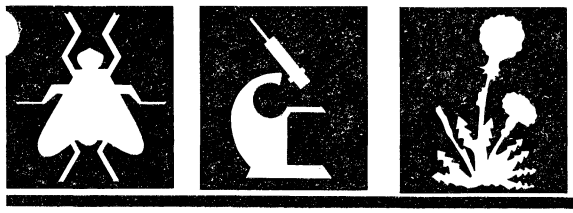
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES



INSECT PLANT DISEASE WEED SCIENCE NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN,
EAST CAMPUS 68583-0816 PHONE 472-2125

No. 90-4 April 13, 1990

In This Issue

INSECT

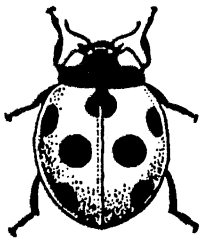
Lorsban Given Emergency Registration for Wheat

Outbreaks of the army cutworm and Russian wheat aphid are occurring in the Panhandle and growers are advised to check their wheat fields for these insects. Economic infestations of army cutworms have been found in alfalfa and wheat fields. Economic infestations of the Russian wheat aphid have been observed in wheat fields in several areas of the Panhandle. As a result, emergency registrations have been issued for Lorsban 4E at a rate of 1 pint/acre of formulated product for use in wheat to control army cutworms and Russian wheat aphids. Refer to the Lorsban 4E Crisis Exemption label for specific instructions and restrictions. Other chemicals labelled for Russian wheat aphid control are DiSyston 8E, Cygon 400, Penncap-M, and parathion.

These emergency state registrations of Lorsban 4E went into effect on April 6 and will be effective for 15 days until April 20. By this time, most of the army cutworm problem areas should have been found and the infestations will likely be on the decline. Growers are advised to consider treatment for army cutworms in wheat when infestation levels reach four or more per square foot or six per foot of row. Spot treatments are advised when entire fields are not infested. Treatment is not likely to be beneficial once the cutworms reach a length of 1 1/2 inches, because they are then ready to cease feeding and pupate. The Russian wheat aphid will likely be a problem through the remainder of the season in the infested areas. The Nebraska Department of Agriculture has indicated their intent to apply for a Section 18 registration for the remainder of the season for the use of Lorsban 4E against the Russian wheat aphid. We will keep you informed of any further developments.

Gary Hein

Search is On For C-7 Lady Beetle



In 1989, great strides were made in confirming the presence of the sevenspotted lady beetle (C-7) in 32 counties across Nebraska. The C-7 lady beetle now has been confirmed in all but seven counties—Boyd, Wayne, Stanton, Thurston, Sarpy, Nemaha and Jefferson. It is assumed that these beneficial beetles are in these counties as well. If they could be identified in these counties, they could be officially confirmed as a New County Record. Your participation in this project is encouraged. The overwintered large, red adults are just now emerging from surface litter in non-crop areas and will be migrating to wheat and alfalfa fields, gardens and other areas to feed on aphids. Bring your suspected C-7 lady beetle to your local Extension office for identification.

Jim Kalisch

Crop Pest Update: Alfalfa, Clover Leaf Weevils Found

Alfalfa weevil and **Clover leaf weevil** larvae can now be found in low numbers in alfalfa in southeastern and northeastern Nebraska, respectively. These are very small first and second instar larvae that are causing very little noticeable damage at this time. Growers should begin scouting for these pests as soon as the alfalfa is six inches tall. **Black cutworm** (BCW) moths are now being caught in pheromone traps in southeastern Nebraska. A story in the next issue of the IPW Newsletter will describe how BCW moth catches can be used to predict the initiation of cutting due to this pest.

Steve Danielson

Beekeepers Field Day Set for May 5

The annual spring Beekeepers Field Day will be held in Lincoln on the East Campus of the University of Nebraska from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday, May 5. The program is intended for both new and experienced beekeepers.

Beekeeping specialists will demonstrate proper handling of colonies, introduction of package bees, colony divisions, and other management practices. A cafeteria style lunch will be available at the East Campus Union. The field day is sponsored by the Eastern Nebraska Honey Producers Association, the Nebraska Department of Agriculture and the Cooperative Extension Service, IANR/UNL.

Fred Baxendale

Start Watching for Grape Flea Beetle

As grapevine buds begin to unfold this spring, grape producers should monitor their vines carefully for evidence of flea beetle activity. The dark, metallic greenish-blue beetles migrate from overwintering sites in sheltered areas near vines to feed on the tender buds. Numerous small holes chewed in the buds can kill them outright or seriously affect new cane growth and eventually yields. Yellow eggs are laid in masses under loose bark or on the upper surfaces of leaves. Upon hatching, the brownish, black-spotted larvae migrate to leaves and skeletonize them. After completing development, larvae pupate in the soil. A new generation of adults emerges during mid-summer and continues to feed on the foliage until fall. Their damage is usually much less serious than that caused by the earlier generation. Spraying the vines with Sevin (50WP) when beetles are first present in the spring should provide satisfactory control.

Fred Baxendale

For More Information

The following new or revised publications were recently released by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Department of Agricultural Communications:

G90-968 Nebraska's Forest Resources: Acreages and Ownership. This NebGuide describes the forest types found in Nebraska and lists acreages by ownerships.

G90-945 A Gardener's Guide for Soil and Nutrient Management in Growing Vegetables. This NebGuide discusses how to manage soil and nutrients when growing vegetables. It also covers soil testing, soil pH, organic matter, and the use of commercial fertilizers.

EC 89-107 Nebraska Proso and Sunflower Variety Tests 1989. This circular is a progress report of proso and sunflower variety tests conducted by the Panhandle Research and Extension Center and the High Plains Agricultural Laboratory.

These publications and many more are available free or at a nominal charge at your local Extension office or from the UNL Department of Agricultural Communications. For a Publications Catalog, contact your local Extension office or write Bulletins, 104 ACB, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE 68583-0918.

WEED SCIENCE

Combination Herbicides — What's in a Name?

The prepackaged herbicide picture continues to change. Evaluating weed control performance, crop safety, and carryover potential of combinations compared with tank mixtures is dependent on the amount of each component in the combination. Sometimes it is difficult to tell how much atrazine is contained in three quarts of Bicep or three quarts of Extrazine II. The following table lists the equivalent amount of each component contained in a gallon or pound of some combination products. The totals don't always add up to one gallon or one pound of herbicide because the combination products may be more or less concentrated than the individual herbicides.

Trade Name	Equivalent Amount of Each Component Contained in 1 gal. or 1 lb. of Product	Manufacturer
Betamix	4 qt Betanal + 4 qt Betanex	Nor-Am
Bicep 6E	3.3 pt Dual + 5.3 pt atrazine	Ciba-Geigy
Brominal 3+3	3 qt Brominal + 3 qt MCPA	Rhone-Poulenc
Bronate	2 qt Buctril + 2 qt MCPA	Rhone-Poulenc
Bronco	2.6 qt Lasso + 1.4 qt Roundup	Monsanto
Buctril + atraztine	2.0 qt Buctril + 2.0 qt atrazine 4L	Rhone-Poulenc
Bullet	2.5 qt Lasso MT + 1.5 qt atrazine	Monsanto
Cannon	2.5 qt Lasso EC + 0.5 qt trifluralin	Monsanto
Canopy 75 DF	0.86 lb Lexone DF + 0.43 lb Classic	DuPont
Commence 5.25 EC	3.0 qt Treflan + 4.5 pt Command	Elanco/FMC
Crossbow	1 qt Garlon + 2 qt 2,4-D	Dow
Curtail	2.0 qt 2,4-D amine + .38 lb ai clopyralid	Dow
Cycle	2.0 pt Dual + 2.0 qt cyanazine	Ciba-Geigy
Extrazine II 4-L	3 qt Bladex + 1.0 qt atrazine	DuPont
Fallow Master	1.5 qt Roundup + 0.6 qt Banvel	Monsanto
Freedom	2.67 qt Lasso EC + 0.33 qt trifluralin	Monsanto
Galaxy	3.0 qt Basagran + 1.3 qt Blazer	BASF
Gemini 60 DF	1.1 lb Lorox DF + 0.18 lb Classic	DuPont
Laddok	1.66 qt Basagran + 1.66 qt atrazine	BASF
Landmaster BW	1.2 qt Roundup + 1.9 qt 2,4-D	Monsanto
Landmaster II	1.2 qt Roundup + 1.0 qt 2,4-D amine	Monsanto
Lariat 4 F	2.5 qt Lasso EC + 1.5 qt atrazine	Monsanto
Lasso +atrazine	2.5 qt Lasso EC + 1.5 qt atrazine	Monsanto
Lorox Plus 60 DF	1.1 lb Lorox DF + 0.12 lb Classic	DuPont
Marksman	1.1 qt Banvel + 2.1 qt atrazine	Sandoz
Matrix 75 DF	0.67 lb Harmony + 0.33 lb Express	DuPont
Milocep	3.33 pt Milogard + 3.3 pt Dual	Ciba-Geigy
Preview 75 DF	0.90 lb Lexone DF + 0.27 lb Classic	DuPont
Prozine 70 DF	0.35 qt Prowl + 0.35 qt atrazine	Am. Cyanamid
Pursuit Plus	2.8 qt Prowl + 0.8 pt Pursuit	Am. Cyanamid

Combination Herbicides — Continued

Trade Name	Equivalent Amount of Each Component Contained in 1 gal. or 1 lb of Product	Manufacturer
Ramrod & atrazine	3 qt Ramrod + 1 qt atrazine	Monsanto
Rescue	4 qt Alanap-L + 4 oz 2,4-D	Uniroyal
Salute 4 EC	2.7 qt trifluralin + 1.3 qt Sencor	Mobay
Squadron 2.33 EC	2.0 qt Prowl + 1.75 pt Scepter	Am. Cyanamid
Sutazine	5.7 pt Sutan+ + 2.4 pt atrazine	ICI Americas
Trimec Super Brush Killer	4 parts 2,4-D + 4 parts 2,4-DP + 1 part Banvel	PBI-Gordon
Trimec Turf Herbicide	2,4-D, MCPP, Dicamba in 9:3:1 ratio	PBI-Gordon
Tri-Scept 3 E	2.6 qt trifluralin + 2.3 pt Scepter	Am. Cyanamid
Turbo 8 E	6.6 pt Dual + 1.45 qt Sencor	Mobay
Turflon D	2.0 qt 2,4-D ester + 1 qt Garlon	Dow

Bob Stougaard and Alex Martin

Herbicides Labeled for Postemergence Weed Control on CRP Acres

Labeled Several herbicide treatments are registered for postemergence broadleaf weed control in CRP plantings. They include Ally, Buctril, Curtail, Glean, 2,4-D and 2,4-D + Banvel. Curtail can be used only on established grasses. The other treatments can be used on grasses from the three-leaf stage on, except 2,4-D and 2,4-D + Banvel which must be applied after the five-leaf stage. Grasses, especially warm season grasses, in this juvenile stage will not tolerate the higher rates of 2,4-D and Banvel used on established grasses. Grasses germinating this spring will be injured by residues of earlier 2,4-D and Banvel applications.

Bob Stougaard and Alex Martin

PLANT DISEASE

Apply Fungicides to Control Diplodia Tip Blight of Pines

Diplodia tip blight is a common disease which attacks older Austrian pines. This disease can also damage ponderosa, Scots, and mugo pines. Disease symptoms include the browning and dying of branch tips. Close examination of the affected branch tips will reveal that new shoot growth is stunted and the needles are short and brown.

The best diagnostic clue is to examine one of last year's stunted shoots. Carefully pull a short, brown needle out of the fascicle sheath. If Diplodia tip blight is present, there will be small black fruiting bodies at the needle base. These can be easily seen with a 10X hand lens and are rough to touch.

Diplodia tip blight can disfigure and eventually kill trees with repeated infections. Fortunately, the disease can be managed by protecting new shoots from infection. New shoots are highly susceptible for a two-week period beginning when the buds open. Research has shown that applying fungicides the third week of April and again the first week of May will provide adequate protection of new shoots in most years. Fungicide applications after mid-May are ineffective. Bordeaux mixture and fixed copper fungicides are labelled for use on pines in the control of Diplodia tip blight. Thorough coverage of the tree is required for good results. It may be necessary to have the treatment applied by a commercial tree service firm. After the fungicide has

dried onto the tree needles, treatment will not be adversely affected by rain. Once this disease is under control, it may not be necessary to spray every year.

Pruning infected branches and tips may improve the general appearance of the tree but will not reduce disease development. The major source of inoculum is found on infected seed cones which remain on the tree. This is why mature cone-bearing trees are usually infected by Diplodia tip blight. Younger, non-bearing trees may become infected if planted near infected older trees. The spores are primarily spread by rain splash.

The NebGuide G83-646 'Diplodia Tip Blight of Pines' discusses symptoms, disease cycle, and control. Color pictures showing the characteristic symptoms are included. To obtain a copy of this publication, contact your local Extension office or write: Bulletins, 104 ACB, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska 68583-0918.

Luanne V. Coziahr

Wheat Disease Update : Few New Problems Developing

The wheat disease picture has been fairly quiet this past week. The Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic did receive some additional wheat samples with soilborne wheat mosaic. As long as it stays cool, this disease will continue to express symptoms. As a brief reminder, affected fields show yellowing, primarily in low areas, with individual plants having a mosaic pattern on the leaves.

A sample of wheat with crown and root rot was received from west central Nebraska. Affected plants were yellowed and the crowns discolored. Fortunately, the crown rot-winter injury problem has not been as severe as earlier anticipated.

John Watkins

Protect Against Phytophthora Root Rot

Seedling alfalfa is highly susceptible to Phytophthora root rot. We have already received a sample from a stand seeded last fall that is showing stand loss to this disease. There is still time to protect spring seedings from a similar fate. Combining the use of disease resistant cultivars with an Apron seed treatment will provide maximum protection from stand loss during the establishment period.

John Watkins

Treat Iron Chlorosis of Trees and Shrubs in Early Spring

Was your pin oak yellow last year?

This could indicate an iron chlorosis problem. Many ornamental plantings of trees and shrubs in Nebraska suffer from iron deficiency due to soils with a pH above 7.5 and poorly drained or compacted soils.

The popular pin oak is often affected by this problem. Affected trees show a prominent yellowing of the leaves. This yellowing occurs first between the veins. Leaves may be smaller than normal and develop brown angular spots between the veins. Leaf margins may turn brown. Eventually, leaves die and fall prematurely. Affected trees may be stunted and eventually die. Other plants are similarly affected.

The NebGuide G84-705 'Iron Chlorosis of Trees and Shrubs' discusses in detail the three methods available to correct iron chlorosis. They are soil application, trunk application, and foliar application. This NebGuide can be obtained from your local Extension office or by writing: Bulletins, 104 ACB, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska 68583-0918.

Soil and trunk applications are most effective when done in early spring during bud break. Later treatments are not as effective. Foliar application should be applied when plants have reached full leaf expansion.

Luanne V. Coziahr

Plant Disease Slide Sets Produced

Extension Plant Pathology and Agricultural Communications recently developed four slide sets that are available for check out. Each slide set comes with slides, tape, and written narrative. The sets are comprehensive and run for 10-15 minutes. The titles of the sets are as follows:

1. Diseases of Alfalfa
2. Diseases of Wheat
3. Diseases of Turfgrass
4. Diseases of Landscape Ornamentals and Trees (Available May 1)

These sets can be checked out by writing or calling:

Extension Plant Pathology
448 Plant Science Hall
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Lincoln, Nebraska 68583-0722
(402) 472-2559

Lawn Fungi Problems Not Quite so Magical as Their Myths

Some mushrooms and most puffballs are edible, but a few are poisonous. Some are foul-smelling and many are considered unsightly, but when they appear on a lawn, most are considered a nuisance. Mushrooms and puffballs are members of a large group of organisms devoid of chlorophyll called fungi.

Another lawn nuisance, fairy rings, also are caused by fungi. The appearance in turf of what seemed to be worn ground surrounded by a ring of much darker green grass was for centuries attributed to the dancing round and round of the "Little People". In Germany, they are called "Hexen Rings" and are ascribed to the dancing of witches on the eve of May Day. In France, they are called "Ronds de Sorcieres," and enormous toads with bulging eyes are said to appear within the magic circle.

For more information on how to identify and treat these fungi in your yard, order the color Extension NebGuide G89-951 "Mushrooms, Puffballs, Fairy Rings, and Slime Molds in Turfgrass." It's available from your local Extension office or through the Bulletin Office at the UNL Department of Agricultural Communication.

John Watkins

IPW News Contributors

The Insect, Plant Disease and Weed Science News is published throughout the growing season by the University of Nebraska Department of Agricultural Communications, 108 Agricultural Communications Bldg., UNL, Lincoln, NE 68583-0918. It is sold by subscription. To order a subscription or to change your address, write to IPW News, Department of Agricultural Communications or call 402-472-5756. **Lisa Brown Jasa, Editor**

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